

Board of County Commissioners

Leon County, Florida

Workshop on Tharpe Street Corridor Study Progress Report

*February 8, 2005
2:00 - 3:00 P.M.*


Leon County Board of County Commission Chambers
Leon County Courthouse, 5th Floor

Board of County Commissioners

Workshop

Date of Meeting: February 8, 2005
Date Submitted: February 2, 2005

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board

From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator 
Tony Park, P.E., Director of Public Works

Subject: Tharpe Street Corridor Study Progress Report Workshop

Statement of Issue:

This workshop will provide a final progress report on the Tharpe Street Corridor Study Project and requests Board approval of the Tharpe Street Corridor Study Final Report.

Background:

During the April 22, 2003 County Commission meeting, the Board of County Commissioners approved the "Transportation Corridor Study P² Program Policy No. 03-07." Item 5.k. (1) requires the Public Works Department to conduct two workshops. This is the second and, if the engineering solutions are approved by the Board, final Tharpe Street Corridor Study Workshop.

This last workshop presents two documents to the Board. First is the "Final Engineering Report (FER)" which also includes the "Tharpe Street Corridor Study Citizens' Advisory Committee Final Report." The FER (Attachment #1) is written documentation of the technical aspects of the engineering design solution (final alignment and typical sections) recommended by staff, the consultants, and the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC).

The second item is the final "Tharpe Street Corridor Study Progress Workbook" (Attachment #2) containing all the information that Public Works' staff, the CAC and the consultants, Kimley Horn and Associates, have reviewed and analyzed to date. The Progress Workbook, a continuation of the same workbook given to the Board for the mid-review titled "Tharpe Street Corridor Study Progress Report Workshop," contains a written and graphic synopsis of all the information used by the Tharpe Street team in the selection of the transportation design alternative presented here.

Some of what the final summary workbook includes:

- Page 4 Background/Introduction
- Page 6 Process
- Page 7 Town Summit Summaries
- Page 8 Existing Conditions
- Page 10 - 24 Preliminary and Refined Alternatives Considered
- Page 25 Preferred Industrial Section
- Page 26 Preferred Residential Section
- Page 27 Preferred Sheridan Road Section
- Page 29 Citizen's Advisory Committee Report

Analysis:

The Board initially approved the Tharpe Street Study because the Tallahassee-Leon County Long-Range Transportation Plan identified Tharpe Street as needing (1) enhanced roadway capacity; and (2) enhanced access for alternative modes of transportation like transit, bike and pedestrian access. The physical limits of the study are from Capital Circle NW to Ocala Road presently a two-lane, undivided minor arterial with open drainage swales and overhead power lines.

With the conclusion of the corridor study, the project is currently at the 30% design stage. The preliminary estimate for the total cost of the project including engineering design, rights-of-way and construction is approximately \$28.9 million. The preliminary cost break down is:

Design, Construction and Inspection (including landscaping)	\$19.8 million
<u>Rights-of-way</u>	<u>\$ 9.1 million</u>
Total	\$28.9 million

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reports there is \$6.8 million currently appropriated for Tharpe Street with an additional \$9.76 programmed for FY07/08. Public Works staff and OMB are developing strategies to address the additional funding need of \$12.34 million outside the current five year window of the Capital Improvement Program.

Throughout the duration of the study extensive stakeholder involvement has taken place and seems to have been successful. Over fifty citizens attended the final public meeting held this past November and most seemed pleased with the outcome of the project.

Options:

1. Approve the Preferred Industrial Section Alternative.
2. Approve the Preferred Sheridan Road Section Alternative.
3. Approve the Preferred Residential Section Alternative.
4. Approve Kimley Horn & Associates Final Engineering Report (FER).
5. Approve the Citizen Advisory Committee's Final Report.
6. Do not approve the Preferred Industrial Section Alternative.
7. Do not approve the Preferred Sheridan Road Section Alternative.
8. Do not approve the Preferred Residential Section Alternative.
9. Do not approve Kimley Horn & Associates Final Engineering Report (FER).
10. Do not approve the Citizen Advisory Committee's Final Report.
11. Board Direction.

Recommendations

Options #1, #2, #3, #4, and #5.

Attachments:

1. Tharpe Street Corridor Study Final Engineering Report. *(This attachment is available for public review at either Leon County Public Works, 2280 Miccosukee Rd. or the Leon County Courthouse, 5th floor reception area.)*
2. Tharpe Street Corridor Study Progress Workbook *(This attachment is available for public review at either Leon County Public Works, 2280 Miccosukee Rd. or the Leon County Courthouse, 5th floor reception area.)*

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